The broad approach of the Government is to provide for a policy framework which is helpful in increasing exports, particularly in the thrust sectors. In this connection, Government has taken a series of measures to facilitate the increased capacity for export production especially to upgrade technology to make export sector more competitive through improved access to capital goods and raw materials at or near international prices and by providing fiscal and monetary incentives for exports. Simultaneously continuous dialogue is being maintained with the Export Promotion Councils and Commodity Boards. In addition, the Ministry holds regular Open House meetings where constraints faced by the exporters are discussed.

Scheme for flood control in Orissa

*59. SHRI KAHNU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Mihister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Orissa Government has submitted any scheme to the Central Government for flood control in that State;

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme and the expenditure to be incurred thereon; and

(c) what action the Central Government have so far taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) to (c) Recently, Mahanadi Delta Development Plan comprising among others flood control component envisaging protection to an area of 5.2 lakh hectares and a population of 30.25 lakhs at an estimated cost of about Rs. 123 crores has been received at the Centre. The proposal is under examination.

Modification of FERA Provisions

*60. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to modify FERA regulations to enlarge trade, ensure greater flow of foreign investment and to step up India's joint ventures abroad; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b) Government have no proposal at present to amend the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA), 1973. Guidelines issued under FERA are kept under review and suitable modifications are made from time to time to meet the requirements of trade, investment and Joint Ventures abroad, as necessary.

Implementation of irrigation advancement programme in Orissa

334. SHRI KAHNU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects undertaken with Central assistance under Irrigation Advancement Programme in Orissa during the Seventh Plan period; and

(b) the achievements made and the assistance given by the Central Government so far on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) and (b) Central assistance amounting Rs. 21.47 crores was given to the Government of Orissa under the Irrigation Advancement Programme during VII Plan for two projects viz. Mahanadi Delta Project and Tank Irrigation. As reported by the State, additional irrigation potential of 39,290 ha. has been created by the Mahanadi